

We also honor their sacrifices and tireless efforts to carry our students forward during the last two difficult years.

From engineering and business to public service and journalism, all professions depend on the profession of teaching. I will always remember the teachers who made a difference in my life. I am so grateful for the teachers who put their heart and soul into inspiring students in my district each and every day.

I thank our teachers' unions, including those in my district, the Cleveland Teachers Union and the Akron Education Association, for their efforts to advocate for educators and to fulfill the promise of high-quality public education for every student.

Again, I thank all the teachers in Ohio's 11th Congressional District and across America.

□ 1215

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. FRANK M. BARKER, JR.

(Mr. PALMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Dr. Frank M. Barker, Jr., who passed away on December 27, 2021. Dr. Barker was a humble man of great faith who lived his life in faithful service to his savior, Jesus Christ: loving and serving others, giving to those in need, and sharing the good news that God sent His only Son to Earth to save those who could not save themselves.

A lifelong resident of Birmingham, Alabama, Dr. Barker was a graduate of Ramsey High School in 1949, a graduate of Auburn University with a degree in engineering, and a lifelong Auburn Tiger fan. He served his country as a jet fighter pilot in the U.S. Navy, including service during the Korean war.

After attending seminary, Dr. Barker founded Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, leading a congregation that was committed to reaching the world for Christ. Through his leadership, Dr. Barker played an important role in the formation of the Presbyterian Church in America, a denomination that remains committed to the inerrancy and authority of Holy Scripture.

I know that Dr. Barker's life and legacy will continue to be an inspiration to others and a model for living a life of generosity and faithfulness.

HONORING MAYOR CLARENCE FIELDS OF PINEVILLE, LOUISIANA

(Ms. LETLOW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LETLOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Clarence Fields of Pineville, Louisiana, who is entering his final weeks in office after an extraordinary career.

A lifelong resident of Pineville, Mayor Fields has led the city for nearly 22 years. If you need any indicator of the amazing work he has done, look no further than the fact that he was re-elected to City Hall six times and was unopposed in his last four elections.

During his time in office, Mayor Fields has been committed to attracting investment to the community and creating good paying jobs for residents. He is also known as a bridge builder—working across racial, political, and geographic lines to deliver results for Pineville and Rapides Parish. He has been an outstanding public servant, and our region is better because he chose to share his talents with the people of his hometown.

The mayor had planned on running again this year but decided to retire to spend more time with his grandchildren. While I will miss working with Mayor Fields, I wish him the best in his very well-deserved retirement.

UKRAINE-RUSSIAN CONFLICT

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, a lot has been said in the last 48 hours on this floor with regard to the Ukraine-Russian conflict; however, I think there are some things that should be added that maybe can be talked about a little bit more as we try to find the end here. And I hope the Biden administration does not give up at all on trying to negotiate some sort of peace.

First of all, I am going to address Russia. Russia has a very low birthrate now of 1.5. In addition to that, people right now are leaving Russia. I was on the San Diego border about 8 months ago, and at that time just in that region—one of 10 regions along the Mexican border—the second biggest nationality to cross was Russian. It was recently reported that in the 6-month period ending January, 8,600 Russians entered this country. I would bet because of the war Russian immigration has only increased.

With regard to Ukraine, its birthrate is even lower. Of approximately 180 countries of size in the world, Ukraine has the second-lowest birthrate to South Korea at 1.1 percent. It has recently been reported the United States will accept up to 100,000 Ukrainians in our country. While it is certainly the intent that they return, we all know that many of them don't.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week as we commemorate National Police Week for those with us and for those who have fallen, I think we find different ways to honor them. One of the ways we can honor them is also to

make their job easier. Unfortunately, with the Biden border crisis, the numbers are devastating. There have been nearly one-quarter million migrant encounters in March because it is a green light and because it is a magnet at our border. There has been a 68 percent drop in deportations in 2021.

Where are we going to put folks like this when we are overwhelming the ability to have the judges and to have their cases heard?

It is not helping. And so we have sanctuary cities all across the U.S. that are making it more acceptable for illegal immigration to happen and making it very difficult for law enforcement to figure out how to process and how to deal with the interactions with local police and ICE.

So we have to have a much more coherent policy on our border: help complete the fence, make these gaps go away that so many are pouring through and giving us such huge numbers here. Forty-two have been arrested on the terrorist watch list under Biden. Let's make the job for our border police and our city police much easier and have a better border policy.

GAS PRICES AND THE GAS TAX

(Mrs. STEEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Orange County families to share their frustration and outrage that they are feeling because of the skyrocketing gas prices in this country.

While this administration refuses to embrace full energy independence and instead continues relying on foreign dictators for oil, southern Californians are paying more for gas than anywhere else in the country. On top of that, despite what could be a \$68 billion surplus, Governor Newsom and Sacramento Democrats have decided to raise gas taxes on July 1. My constituents simply can't afford another day under the policies that are forcing them to pay more while getting less.

Enough is enough.

Whether it is here in Washington, D.C., or in Sacramento, President Biden and Governor Newsom need to commit to unleashing energy independence today. The people of this great country need relief today.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SECURING THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECH- NOLOGY AND SERVICES SUPPLY CHAIN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117-120)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed: